

GO 57 is last of series for 1970

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GENERAL ORDERS
No. 1

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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I. SILVER STAR. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918, a Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to:

Sergeant *William W. Jacks*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by gallantry in action as a member of Company "B", 2832nd Engineer Combat Battalion during the crossing of the Rhine River in the vicinity of Worms, Germany, on 26 March 1945. At about 0400 hours Sergeant *Jacks* volunteered to place a light on the far shore to guide amphibious tanks to their exit point. Under enemy observation and fire he crossed the river, placed the light at the exit point, and then started back. Upon discovering several drowning men whose assault raft had been sunk by enemy shell fire, Sergeant *Jacks*, without hesitating, immediately went to their rescue. He was able to rescue six of these men, all of whom he brought to the near shore for medical attention. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman in the dedication of his service to his country, Sergeant *Jacks* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army. (This award supersedes the Bronze Star Medal awarded to Sergeant *Jacks* for gallantry in action on 26 March 1945, as announced in General Orders Number 58, 12 July 1945, Headquarters, VI Corps, APO #46).

II. LEGION OF MERIT. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 20 July 1942, and Executive Order 10600, 15 March 1953, the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service is awarded to:

Major General *George W. J. Baurin*, , Belgian Army. July 1965 to March 1969.

Major General *Wen Ha-Hsing*, Chinese Army. September 1965 to June 1969.

Brigadier General *Kim Kang-Seop*, , Republic of Korea Army. January 1969 to November 1969.

Special Colonel *Swang Khamasundara*, , Royal Thai Army. January 1969 to January 1970.

Brigadier General *Dong Van Khuyen*, , Army of the Republic. October 1967 to October 1969.

Brigadier General *Nguyen Vinh Nghi*, , Army of the Republic of Vietnam. November 1968 to October 1969.

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Major General *Yun Pil-Yong*, , Republic of Korea Army. October 1968 to October 1969.

Lieutenant General *Yi Se-ho*, , Republic of Korea Army. August 1967 to April 1969.

Lieutenant General *Thongchern Sangkhavanich*, , Royal Thai Army. June 1967 to April 1969.

Lieutenant General *Tran Ngoc Tam*, , Army of the Republic of Vietnam. May 1968 to June 1969.

Lieutenant General *Karl Wilhelm Thilo*, , Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Germany. October 1967 to September 1970.

III. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism while participating in aerial flight is awarded by the Department of the Army to:

Chief Warrant Officer *Donald D. Schomp*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism in combat operations against hostile forces on 21 March 1967. On that day the recovery crew on a CH-47 helicopter commanded by Warrant Officer *Schomp* received an urgent request for a volunteer recovery crew to extract a downed UH-1 aircraft from an insecure zone on the Republic of Vietnam's west boundary. The crew volunteered without hesitation and proceeded to Dak To to refuel and then on to the recovery site. Enemy fire was pounding the small ground security force from three quadrants. The downed aircraft was in a 100-foot-high jungle on a knoll partly cleared by a bomb crater. The downed aircraft rigging crew slipped in at low level by UH-1 through the open quadrant and rapidly lashed up the aircraft with sling apparatus. As the lashup was being completed, Warrant Officer *Schomp* began his approach to the hookup point while lowering a 60-foot-long sling cable needed for lift-off out of the trees. On the first two attempts, Warrant Officer *Schomp* had to break off the approach because the intense fire threatened the success of the mission. With most of the hot fire sources now spotted, Warrant Officer *Schomp* estimated that airborne and ground suppressive fire could provide sufficient margin for success for another attempt at hookup. Realizing that the security of the ground force was at stake, in that enemy capabilities were building up and the location of the downed helicopter was not conducive to good defense, Warrant Officer *Schomp* recognized the pressure for successful action. In the face of fire, he skillfully performed the extended hookup. Upon lifting the load off the ground, he realized that the heavily loaded, downed gunship was too heavy for the long sling and altitude conditions, and yet he computed that he had very little spare fuel that could be burned off. His coolness under fire combined with his years of flight experience truly paid dividends when he estimated that he could make a momentary lift-off and move the downed aircraft enough to allow for better defense and to allow for use of a shorter sling. His estimate, decision and action was instantaneous. Armed helicopters and A-1E aircraft attacked enemy fire sources continuously, fighting for time for Warrant Officer *Schomp* and his recovery crew. The dense black smoke from the burning jungle posed a severe restriction to visibility for both air and ground crews. After hookup under Warrant Officer *Schomp's* skilled control, the helicopter and sling load inched to the new site with rotor power dropping marginally low. Upon arrival on the new spot, Warrant Officer *Schomp* alerted his gunners to fire that was coming

from the east quadrant and gave sling preparation instructions to the flight engineer, while controlling the aircraft in close quarters among the trees and recovering lost power. He directed an immediate re-hookup with a shorter sling. With the aircraft still critically loaded, he gradually inched out of the zone in the midst of a new fury of hostile fire. Miraculously the effort succeeded without loss of life and the load was brought back to Dak To with only a minimum of fuel remaining. Throughout the entire effort, the crew of the lift ship demonstrated outstanding dedication to duty, professional knowledge and selfless disregard for their own personal safety in the face of hostile fire. The cool professionalism displayed by Warrant Officer *Schomp* in the face of a dangerous mission was an inspiration to his comrades and reflects great credit on him, his unit and the United States Army.

IV--SOLDIER'S MEDAL. 1. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *James Coleman*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Jackson, South Carolina on 2 July 1970, while serving as Safety Noncommissioned Officer, Remagen Hand Grenade Range, United States Army Training Center, Infantry, Fort Jackson, South Carolina. On that date a trainee hurled a fragmentation grenade against the safety wall of the grenade bay, endangering his life and that of Sergeant *Coleman*. Sergeant *Coleman's* quick action in throwing the trainee to the ground and shielding the trainee's body with his own when the grenade detonated was directly responsible for saving the lives of both the trainee and himself. Sergeant *Coleman's* quick action, without concern for his personal safety, set him apart as a man of exemplary courage and devotion to duty. Sergeant *Coleman's* heroic conduct and outstanding bravery are in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflect distinct credit on him and the military service.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Six *Charles G. Diddy*, , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Biloxi, Mississippi on 17 August 1969. On that date Specialist *Diddy* was serving as a member of the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 138th Transportation Battalion (Truck) which was evacuating people on the Mississippi coast of the Gulf of Mexico during Hurricane Camille. Specialist *Diddy* and twelve other members of the Detachment were forced to evacuate the National Guard facilities at Biloxi, Mississippi when the treacherous hurricane, characterized by 200-mile-per-hour winds and 20-foot tidal waves, threatened to destroy the armory. Specialist *Diddy* and the twelve other passengers were aboard an amphibious vehicle when the propeller struck a submerged object and sheared the marine drive shaft. With the disabled vehicle being tossed about by the hurricane and under the threat of being swept out into the Gulf of Mexico, Specialist *Diddy*, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, dove into the treacherous water amid the tumbling automobiles, homes, downed power lines, and trees and by sheer courage and determination succeeded in reaching a partially destroyed building. To this building he tied

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a rope which he had towed from the vehicle. His fortitude, perseverance, and determination through this perilous operation prevented the loss of thirteen lives. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *Diddy* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *William L. Dodson*, , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Pass Christian, Mississippi on 17 August 1969. On that date during the most intense portion of Hurricane Camille, with winds in excess of 175 miles per hour; tides over 20 feet above normal; and buildings, automobiles, and other debris being blown about, Specialist *Dodson* observed two men and a young boy struggling to reach safety. A wall of water engulfed the three, tearing the young boy from their grip. With complete disregard for his own safety, Specialist *Dodson* dashed into the turbulent debris-filled waters, fought his way to the place where the boy disappeared, dove into the murky water and succeeded in locating the submerged youth some 40 feet from where he was last seen. Specialist *Dodson*, despite the treacherous undertow, managed to grasp the boy. Using a half-submerged automobile as an anchorage to prevent them being swept out to the Gulf of Mexico, Specialist *Dodson* simultaneously swam and towed the boy to a lifeline which had been strung by his fellow crew members a short time before. Through his courage and spontaneous reaction to a dangerous situation, he averted the certain death of the youth. After getting the youth to safety, he continued his efforts of rescuing people throughout the night and the next day despite the hazardous circumstances. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *Dodson* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Brill R. Fairley*, , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at D'Iberville, Mississippi on 17 August 1969. On that date while serving as a crew member on board an amphibious vehicle, Specialist *Fairley* displayed complete disregard for his own personal safety while participating in rescue operations during the height of Hurricane Camille. Specialist *Fairley* and a fellow Guardsman had loaded thirty-five citizens of D'Iberville, Mississippi aboard their vessel and were en route to an established shelter when the vehicle lost its marine drive. Within minutes the 200-mile-per-hour wind had blown their disabled vehicle toward a huge plate glass window of a supermarket. Realizing the imminent danger, and without hesitation or fear for his own life, Specialist *Fairley* immediately jumped into the turbulent debris-filled water and succeeded in towing a rope to a nearby tree to which he anchored the vehicle. Realizing that the passengers and the vehicle could not survive the storm in that location, again Specialist *Fairley* jeopardized his life by jumping into the hazardous waters and diving beneath the vehicle to inspect

the propeller. Feeling his way through the black water he found a log jammed between the propeller and the housing. After several attempts to remove the log, Specialist *Fairley* discovered a small air pocket near the propeller and, by keeping his nose in the air pocket, remained under the hurricane tide for over 5 minutes, which enabled him to dislodge the log. This dangerous exploit enabled the crew to operate their craft and deliver their passengers to safety. Throughout the night Specialist *Fairley* displayed raw courage and bravery in endangering his life to save the lives of his fellowman. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *Fairley* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

5. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Chief Warrant Officer *John C. Francis*, , United States Army who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Tactical Site 7, Fort Rucker, Alabama on 19 May 1970. On that date Warrant Officer *Francis* was serving as an Instructor Pilot, Flight Training Division, Department of Advanced Fixed Wing Training, United States Army Aviation School, Fort Rucker, Alabama, when notified of an aircraft accident in his vicinity. He immediately proceeded to the crash site and upon arrival found both crew members in the aircraft and the aircraft on fire. Totally disregarding his own personal safety, Warrant Officer *Francis* approached the aircraft, employing the fire extinguisher from his own aircraft. He momentarily retarded the fire and extracted one man who was still alive, though seriously injured, and carried him to safety. He then administered life-saving first aid. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Warrant Officer *Francis* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

6. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Major *Forrest V. Graves*, , Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Goose Bayou, Lafitte, Louisiana, on 5 June 1970. On that date a man had jumped into the bayou to save the life of his own daughter but was unable to swim. He began shouting for help and by the time Major *Graves* reached him he was floating limp about 2 feet under the surface. This activity occurred in a section of the bayou that is quite deep and noted for its strong undercurrents which have claimed several lives over the years. Major *Graves* was aware of the dangerous situation but went to the stranger's rescue with complete disregard for his own safety. He was able to hold the drowning man up out of the water until he could catch his breath, and then he swam with him to the piling of a bridge some 40 to 50 yards downstream. A boat from across the bayou arrived on the scene to pick up both men as Major *Graves* prepared to swim with the non-swimmer back to shore. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Major *Graves* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

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7. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

First Lieutenant *George F. Irwin, Jr.*, , United States Air Force, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life in Qui Nhon, Republic of Vietnam on 3 May 1969. On that date a sergeant jumped into the water attempting to escape the flames of a burning boat with explosives aboard. Seeing that the sergeant could not swim and that he was having difficulty keeping his head above water, Lieutenant *Irwin* dove into the water to rescue him. With complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant *Irwin* swam to the burning boat and assisted in removing gear that the sergeant was wearing. While the sergeant was attempting to keep his head above water he became entangled in a rope leading from the burning craft. Lieutenant *Irwin* dove under the water and untangled the rope from the sergeant's legs. Lieutenant *Irwin* then began swimming to safety with the sergeant in a cross-chest carry. When both were a short distance from the boat the explosives detonated. However, because of Lieutenant *Irwin's* quick action, both men were far enough away to avoid injury. Lieutenant *Irwin's* personal bravery prevented the sergeant from drowning or becoming injured from the explosions while risking his own life. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, Lieutenant *Irwin* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

8. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

First Lieutenant *Arthur R. Jacobs*, , Field Artillery, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Sterling Airport, Sterling, Massachusetts, on 12 February 1970. On that date Lieutenant *Jacobs* was assisting civilian pilots and Federal Aviation Agency authorities in the direction of a search-and-rescue operation of a downed civilian private aircraft. While designating search areas from inside the operations section, Lieutenant *Jacobs* heard the Mayday cry over the airport intercom and rushed outside just in time to see one of the search aircraft, with its pilot and observer, abort on take-off and crash into another plane that was parked on the ramp. Both of the planes immediately burst into flames. Noticing a man hanging upside-down from the aircraft, Lieutenant *Jacobs*, without regard for his personal safety, jumped onto the burning wing to pull him from the wreckage. As Lieutenant *Jacobs* was desperately trying to save him a fuel tank ruptured and its volatile contents ignited. After pulling the man to safety, Lieutenant *Jacobs* and a State Trooper attempted to fight their way through the inferno to save the pilot, but the intensity of the conflagration drove the rescue efforts back. He again returned to the site of the wreckage and helped direct operations of the fire department and the State Police until officials of the Federal Aviation Agency arrived. Lieutenant *Jacobs's* calm approach and demonstrated professionalism in the face of grave personal danger was directly responsible for saving the life of the observer and contributed greatly in minimizing damage to other aircraft parked in the vicinity of the crash site. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Lieutenant *Jacobs* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

9. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Corporal *Aubrey C. King*, , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Pass Christian, Mississippi on 17 August 1969: On that date he selflessly imperiled his own safety when he dived into the tidal flow near the peak of Hurricane Camille to rescue three elderly women from a damaged home. As a member of the crew of a wheeled amphibious vehicle, which was being employed in evacuation operations, Corporal *King*, along with three other crewmen, responded to reports that a number of persons who had elected to ride out the storm were now in dire need of assistance. At about 2400 hours, almost at the center of the hurricane in the Pass Christian Isle area of the gulf coast of Mississippi the crew voluntarily left the security of their shelter and embarked aboard the vehicle on the search-and-rescue mission. Maneuvering with great difficulty against the treacherous currents of the abnormal 20-foot tides and the near tornadic winds bombarded by water- and wind-borne debris, they had progressed for about one-half of a city block when a cry for help was heard. Corporal *King* unhesitatingly, and with no concern for the risks involved, quickly tied a rope around himself, dived into the dark, swirling waters and determinedly swam toward the source of the desperate plea. Arriving at a severely damaged home, which seemingly was about to be totally destroyed, he found the three victims almost submerged in the flood. They were cold, frightened, and in imminent danger of losing their lives to the many hazards that surrounded them. Corporal *King* secured the rope, providing a meager lifeline between the structure and the vehicle. Tediously, he extricated each victim, individually placing them, by way of the lifeline, aboard the vehicle. Amid the precarious conditions, he shuttled back and forth until the task was completed. On each trip, Corporal *King* willingly jeopardized his own well-being by exposing himself to the perils inherent in the ominous waters and in the potential disintegration of the house. His steadfast courage, unsurpassed determination and quick action freed those imprisoned by the storm, averting additional tragedy from the monstrous Hurricane Camille. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Corporal *King* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

10. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Henry E. Letort*, , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Biloxi, Mississippi on 17 August 1969. On that date he selflessly imperiled his own life in the continuous search for and rescue of persons while braving the full fury of Hurricane Camille. As a crew member of an amphibious vehicle, Specialist *Letort*, and the other driver crewman, knowing that many people were in dire need of assistance, voluntarily spurned the safety of shelter although superior officers had decreed the suspension of military evacuation duties pending abatement of the storm. As the driver threaded the vehicle through falling power lines, tumbling automobiles

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and deadly flying missiles, Specialist *Letort* worked on board the vehicle and in the water around it. In the darkness, in winds of near tornadic velocity and in abnormally high tides, he extricated frightened victims from all manner of predicaments. With great physical strength and endurance, he collected people from trees, utility poles, wreckage, rooftops and attics, bringing them aboard the amphibian vehicle. Continuously faced with distress calls, Specialist *Letort* immediately and unhesitatingly responded. One such call came from a floundering disabled sister craft, transporting thirteen refugees, including suspected heart attack patients, about to be washed out to sea. Specialist *Letort*, and his fellow crewman, through intricate maneuvering and skillful teamwork retrieved the group. On the emergency run to seek medical attention for the stricken man now aboard the vehicle, Specialist *Letort* again subjected himself to the lethal hazards of the storm by diving into the ominous waters to bring three children and an elderly woman to the vehicle from their perches on a utility pole and in a tree. Delivering the afflicted to a local hospital, Specialist *Letort* was confronted with the task of obtaining oxygen to replace the hospital's exhausted supply, on which depended the immediate and emergency treatment of the seriously ill. Once more he voluntarily placed his life in jeopardy in the treacherous environment to transport the oxygen from a distant location. No sooner was this mission completed than Specialist *Letort*, answering yet another call for help, proceeded to the rescue of two youths trapped in water, inside a house, in imminent danger of being crushed by a severely weakened huge tree. Completing this rescue task and returning to his original station just prior to dawn, Specialist *Letort* had completed a full night of lifesaving rescue actions, subjecting himself at all times to the total challenge of one of the most powerful hurricanes ever recorded with complete disregard for the consequences. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *Letort* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

11. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Lieutenant Colonel *Robert G. MacLennan*, , Corps of Engineers, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at the Special Services recreation area, Lake Belton, Texas on April 1970. On that date a soldier who had been swimming in the lake was seized with cramps and could not reach the shore. The swimmer, who weighed 198 pounds and was fully dressed, became hysterical and was drowning. Upon hearing the alarm of the other persons near the site, Colonel *MacLennan* swam to the man, who was about 25 meters from shore and in approximately 15 feet of water, and brought him safely to shore. The soldier was in a nearly uncontrolled and panicky state during this time and presented a clear and imminent threat to his life. Colonel *MacLennan* treated him for shock and revived him from hysteria. His heroic response to save the life of another person, at great risk to his own, was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflects great credit on him and the military service.

12. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *David R. McGuigan*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia on 21 April 1970. On that date, while negotiating a 90-degree turn, the driver of a tractor-trailer, in which Specialist *McGuigan* and a fellow soldier were passengers, lost control of the vehicle and it overturned. After the vehicle came to rest, Specialist *McGuigan* crawled from it, suffering from a fractured clavicle and multiple contusions. Upon realizing he was the only one who had exited the smoking vehicle, Specialist *McGuigan*, without regard for his own safety, returned to the tractor-trailer and freed a canvas cover, allowing his comrade to escape. The driver died as a result of the accident. Specialist *McGuigan*'s heroism in the face of a possible explosion of the highly combustible jet engine fuel exemplifies the highest standards expected of a professional soldier. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *McGuigan* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

13. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Captain *Kevin R. McKeon*, , Military Police Corps, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Tactical Site 7, Fort Rucker, Alabama on 19 May 1970. On that date, while assigned to the 65th Company, 6th Battalion, United States Army Aviation Brigade, Fort Rucker, Alabama, Captain *McKeon* was undergoing training in the O-1 aircraft at TAC 7, Fort Rucker, Alabama when notified of an O-1 accident in his vicinity. He immediately proceeded to the crash site and upon arrival found both crew members in the aircraft and the aircraft on fire. Totally disregarding his own personal safety, Captain *McKeon* approached the aircraft, freed and extracted one man who was still alive, though seriously injured, and carried him to safety. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Captain *McKeon* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

14. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Second Lieutenant *Walter L. Pamplin Jr.*, , Quartermaster Corps, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life in Resurrection Bay at Seward, Alaska on 25 July 1970. On that date, a 17-foot, Army outboard motorboat, from which Lieutenant *Pamplin* and two fellow officers were fishing, began taking on water for no apparent reason. Lieutenant *Pamplin*, knowing the boat was going to sink, immediately took charge of the boat and ordered the liferaft inflated. As the boat began to overturn, the boat operator, who couldn't swim, jumped from the boat into the water. With total disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant *Pamplin* threw off his own lifejacket and dove in after him. He then brought the victim, who was struggling, to the raft. Noticing that one of the officers was pinned under the sinking boat, Lieutenant *Pamplin* again exhausted himself by valiantly swimming to save his fellow officer. After bringing his companion to the raft, he found the raft losing air and sinking rapidly. Again he took charge of the situation and calmed

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the panic-stricken group of men. With the water an icy 38 degrees, and his comrades giving almost no assistance, he guided the sinking raft 500 yards through rough, choppy water to shore. After reaching the shore, Lieutenant *Pamplin* quickly administered first aid to one of his fellow officers and to the boat operator, who were in shock. Then he began signaling for help. All of a sudden, the other officer passed out and fell to the ground. Lieutenant *Pamplin* immediately ran to his side and revived his unconscious companion. After insuring his comfort and safety, he again began signaling for help. Ignoring his own condition of total exhaustion, he remained in control until help arrived. Throughout the whole period, he worked unceasingly, continuously placing the safety of his companions above his own. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Lieutenant *Pamplin* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

15. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Staff Sergeant *Robert L. Perez*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Benning, Georgia on 31 January 1970. On that date Sergeant *Perez*, while driving past the Russ Swimming Pool at Fort Benning, noticed that a small boy had fallen into the pool. Recognizing immediately the dire emergency, Sergeant *Perez* stopped his automobile and ran to the distressed child. At this point the boy had become submerged. Displaying exceptionally quick reaction and complete disregard for his own safety and a scum on the surface of the pool, he plunged into the frigid, turbid water. Sergeant *Perez* relentlessly searched the bottom of the pool in spite of the water temperature and low visibility, found the boy, and brought him to the surface. Unable to climb up the slick, moss-covered bank, he threw the child into the arms of his wife, who administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Extremely fatigued by his rescue efforts and unable because of the slippery sides of the pool to extricate himself, he was forced to remain in the water until military police arrived to assist him. Sergeant *Perez's* exceptionally heroic and quick action undoubtedly saved the life of the child. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Sergeant *Perez* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

16. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Marco J. Radovich*, , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Pass Christian, Mississippi on 17 August 1969. On that date Specialist *Radovich* was serving as a member of the 135th Transportation Company (Amphibian) which was participating in the rescue of victims of Hurricane Camille. During the height of the hurricane, he and his fellow crewmen of an amphibious vehicle heard frantic calls for help coming from a house located down a narrow alley. With the crew unable to negotiate the narrow alley because of fallen trees and debris, Specialist *Radovich*, with complete disregard for his own safety and ignoring the hurricane winds,

jumped into the turbulent waters and swam to the house from which the cries for help had come. Upon reaching the house, he found sixteen children and two adults standing in water over their waist, with the roof and two sides of the house blown away and with the other part of the house rapidly disintegrating due to the hurricane winds and the pounding tide. Despite the obstacles, he succeeded in getting a rope secured between the house and the vehicle and, with the help of the adults, he managed to get the sixteen children safely into the vehicle after numerous trips. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *Radovich* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

17. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

First Lieutenant *Laurel V. Roberts*, , Women's Army Corps, United States Army, who distinguished herself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Rock Quarry, Gadsden, Alabama on 5 April 1970. On that date at approximately 1500 hours, Lieutenant *Roberts*, with complete disregard for her own personal safety, dove unhesitatingly into deep icy water and swam 100 yards to rescue a young man from drowning. Her calm assurance and instantaneous reactions in the face of danger are the indelible principles that are bred in the courageous. Lieutenant *Roberts'* positive response to this emergency prevented compounding an already tragic incident. By her courageous action and humanitarian regard for her fellowman, in the dedication of her service to her country, Lieutenant *Roberts* has reflected great credit upon herself and the United States Army.

18. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Ronald J. Seymour* , Mississippi Army National Guard, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Biloxi, Mississippi on 17 August 1969. On that date he selflessly imperiled his own life to brave the full fury of Hurricane Camille in the continuous search for and rescue of persons exposed to the raging storm. As a driver of an amphibious vehicle, and with one crewman, Specialist *Seymour*, knowing that many people were in dire need of assistance, voluntarily spurned the safety of shelter although his superiors had decreed the suspension of military evacuation duties pending abatement of the storm. Of his own volition, he continued to thread the vehicle through falling power lines, tumbling automobiles and deadly flying missiles in the darkness of the night, locating frightened victims, extricating them from all manner of predicaments, and delivering them to safe havens. Operating under circumstances far exceeding the prescribed capabilities of the amphibian vehicle, Specialist *Seymour*; with great strength, skill, and determination; continued to patrol the area. Monitoring a distress call from a sister craft at about the height of the storm, he immediately set out to retrieve the 13 persons aboard the floundering vehicle. Overcoming monstrous obstacles, he successfully collected the group, which included persons with symptoms of heart attacks. Subsequently, while en route to deliver these passengers, three children were taken aboard from a utility

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pole and an elderly woman was plucked from the swirling waters. Arriving at a local hospital, he quickly volunteered to obtain a resupply of urgently needed oxygen. Facing the raging storm with unusual abandon, he successfully obtained and delivered the vital materials. No sooner had Specialist *Seymour* completed this mission than he was again confronted with yet another call for assistance. Once more he set himself and the vehicle against the hurricane. This time he found two youths trapped in a flooded house located under an ominously leaning huge tree, which portended imminent destruction should the winds send it crashing into the house. Carefully he executed the necessary maneuvers to effect the rescue. Returning to the point of initial assignment just prior to dawn, Specialist *Seymour* had completed a full night of lifesaving rescue work, subjecting himself at all times to the total challenge of one of the most powerful hurricanes ever recorded with complete disregard for the consequences. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist *Seymour* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

19. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 2 July 1926, a Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy is awarded to:

Specialist Four *Thomas E. Weaver*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism involving voluntary risk of life at Fort Jackson, South Carolina on 2 July 1970. On that date a trainee hurled a fragmentation grenade against the safety wall of the grenade bay, endangering his life and that of Specialist *Weaver* who was serving as Back-Up Safety Noncommissioned Officer, Remagen Hand Grenade Range, United States Army Training Center, Infantry, Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Specialist *Weaver's* quick action in throwing the trainee to the ground and shielding the trainee's body with his own when the grenade detonated was directly responsible for saving the lives of both the trainee and himself. Specialist *Weaver's* quick action, without concern for his personal safety, set him apart as a man of exemplary courage and devotion to duty. By his courageous action and humanitarian regard for his fellowman, in the dedication of his service to his country, Specialist Four *Weaver* has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

V--BRONZE STAR MEDAL. 1) By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *George W. Braxton*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 13 April 1966 while serving as Forward Observer, Company C, 1st Battalion, 69th Armor, 25th Infantry Division, United States Army, Republic of Vietnam. On this date Sergeant *Braxton* was accompanying Company C on a combat operation in the Filho Plantation at the edge of the Hobo Woods. As the company entered a small clearing, lead elements were taken under small arms fire by an enemy force concealed in the far woodline. Although the area was scattered with anti-personnel mines and the hostile fire was intense, the company began to close with the enemy. As the troops advanced, a soldier detonated a land mine and was rendered critically wounded and immobile. Sergeant *Braxton*, realizing immediate action was necessary, leaped from his armored vehicle and went to the aid of the

wounded man. Although exposing himself to a very heavy barrage of enemy fire, he dashed approximately 70 meters through the uncleared mine field to reach the man's side. Once there, he ignored the enemy fire which was being concentrated upon his position and applied tourniquets to his comrade's wounds. He then moved the wounded man to a position out of the line of fire. As a result of Sergeant *Braxton's* conspicuous gallantry, the life of the wounded soldier was saved. Sergeant *Braxton's* heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit on him and the military service.

2. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Captain *Rohlann L. Callender*, , Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on the night of 16-17 June 1968 while serving as Training Center Advisor, 7th Infantry Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam. At approximately 2315 hours, 16 June 1968 an estimated Viet Cong company infiltrated the perimeter and assaulted the Command Post of the 2d Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment located at the Binh Duc Training Center, using small arms, automatic weapons, rockets, mortars, and hand grenades. Captain *Callender* requested helicopter gunships and aircraft and directed their fires for more than 2 hours along the north and western perimeters of the 2d Battalion area to ease the pressure on that unit which was engaged in heavy hand-to-hand combat. The contact raged until 0245 hours, 17 June 1968. During the period Captain *Callender* maintained contact with and acted as radio relay for the beleaguered United States Advisors. He also coordinated with the 72d Artillery, 7th Division Tactical Operations Center and the 6th Cavalry Squadron. His coordination of the friendly forces on the ground and supporting fires provided the all-important cohesive direction of assets which routed the enemy from the perimeter. As the fires subsided, Captain *Callender* organized a pick-up point for medical evacuation. He determined the nature and extent of injuries, separated the casualties and directed an orderly evacuation by helicopter and road. Captain *Callender's* self-appointed role as coordinator of three friendly battalions established controls and provided direction and guidance for the friendly forces. His accurate adjustment of gunships and counter-mortar fire enabled the friendly forces to reorganize and drive the enemy from the Training Center. His tireless and unhesitating actions are in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit on him, the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam and the military service.

3. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Sergeant First Class *John M. Hagerdash*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 24 December 1967 while serving as an observer in a scout aircraft in the Republic of Vietnam. During a screening mission for the C Troop Aero Rifle Platoon his sister ship was shot down by intense enemy ground fire. As his aircraft landed to render aid, he jumped out under dense enemy fire. With complete disregard for his personal safety, he proceeded to evacuate the wounded crew and render first aid to the observer

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who was shot above the right knee. After completing this, and still under heavy enemy fire which was directed at the downed aircraft and crew, he returned to the aircraft to remove its armament and other essential equipment. Then he provided security for the downed aircraft and crew until help arrived and he supervised the crew's evacuation. Sergeant *Hagerdash's* personal bravery and dedication to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

4. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Sergeant *Edward J. Ziek*, , United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism on 7 March 1969, while on a reconnaissance-in-force mission near Ben Tre, Republic of Vietnam. Sergeant *Ziek's* rifle company was mistakenly subjected to a napalm air strike which landed on the position occupied by the company command post and two platoons of the company. The air strike inflicted a number of casualties and created confusion among the infantrymen, most of whom began to run into the jungle to escape the intense heat and flames. With his clothing smoldering and ignited by the napalm covering him and his equipment, Sergeant *Ziek* remained at his post and made radio contact with the forward air controller flying overhead to effect a check-fire which stopped further air strikes on the company. Only Sergeant *Ziek's* solitary act of courage prevented heavy casualties in the company and averted what would have been a serious tragedy. Sergeant *Ziek's* extraordinary courage and devotion to duty reflect the greatest credit on himself, the 9th Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

VI. BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal with "V" device for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded posthumously to:

Sergeant First Class *William J. Everhart*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroic achievement in connection with military operations in Vietnam on 8 November 1963. On that date, while a member of Company B, 1st Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces, and performing duties with a reconnaissance patrol with the 319th Border Surveillance Company, Sergeant *Everhart* displayed outstanding military competence and valor by leading the pursuit of three Viet Cong discovered working in a dry rice field. The pursuit of the Viet Cong led the patrol to a Viet Cong jungle camp where the patrol came under enemy fire. During the fire fight, until he was mortally wounded, Sergeant *Everhart* directed the successful efforts of the patrol in returning the enemy fire. Sergeant *Everhart's* exemplary leadership, valorous actions and devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Army and reflect great credit upon himself and his unit.

VII. BRONZE STAR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 11046, 24 August 1962, a Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against hostile forces is awarded to:

Colonel *Le Dat Cong*, , Army of the Republic of Vietnam. February 1968 to April 1969.

Special Colonel *Mana Ratanakoses*,
1968 to July 1969.

, Royal Thai Army. June

1 Special Colonel *Udom Titthasiri*,
1968 to July 1969.

Royal Thai Army, June

VIII. AIR MEDAL. By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9158, 11 May 1942, as amended by Executive Order 9242-A, 11 September 1942, an Air Medal with "V" device for heroism while participating in aerial flight is awarded by the Department of the Army to:

Chief Warrant Officer *David R. Saylor*, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroic achievement in combat operations against hostile forces on 21 March 1967. On that day the recovery crew received an urgent recovery mission. With no hesitation, they reacted immediately and followed another recovery aircraft to Dak To for final coordination of the recovery mission. Warrant Officer *Saylor* was serving as the pilot. Upon rendezvous at the recovery site, the landing zone was found to be a bomb crater on top of a small knoll with a security force of sixty personnel on the edge of the bomb crater and the downed aircraft in the center. There was steady small arms fire from three quadrants and a forest fire threatening the area from all sides. After the recovery team was landed it was determined that additional fuel would be required to perform the lift and return the aircraft to Dak To. It was also determined that 60 feet of sling would have to be paid out from the lift ship due to the limited size of the confirmed landing zone and 100-foot trees on all sides. After refueling and returning to the site, the lift ship set up its approach and established a tenuous hover approximately 80 feet above the downed aircraft. The hookup was finally made and the lift attempted. Just as it became obvious that additional fuel burn-off and/or downed aircraft unloading would be required, the ground party frantically waved the lift ship off for fear of its being hit in an intense surge of small arms fire. The load was unhooked and the lift attempt aborted. Following two more abortive attempts, the recovery crew established themselves at a high, exposed hover and made the hookup on the fourth attempt in less than 1 hour of elapsed time. Small arms fire was sporadic, yet increasing in intensity as the target presented itself once more. The lift crew brought the sling load to a high hover to clear the trees, utilizing all power available, and gradually inched out of the landing zone in the midst of a hail of hostile fire. Miraculously the effort succeeded and the load was brought back to Dak To. Throughout the entire effort, the crew of the lift ship demonstrated an outstanding dedication to their duties, a superlative knowledge of the capabilities and limitations of their aircraft, and a selfless disregard for their own personal safety in the face of seemingly certain hostile fire damage and/or destruction. The cool professionalism displayed by Warrant Officer *Saylor* in the face of this dangerous mission was an inspiration to his comrades and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

IX. ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672-5-1, the Army Commendation Medal (Second Oak Leaf Cluster) with "V" device for heroism is awarded to:

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Captain *John M. Vann*, , Infantry, United States Army, who distinguished himself by heroism in the Republic of Vietnam during the night of 1-2 November 1967. On that date, during Operation Shenandoah II, Captain *Vann* was serving near the tactical operations center of his battalion's night defensive position. At approximately 2000 hours, the defensive perimeter began receiving hostile mortar and small arms fire. Visibility was poor due to a cloud cover. Although continuously subjected to hostile fire, Captain *Vann* personally directed a critically needed flareship from an exposed position outside the protection of the tactical operations center bunker. He concurrently coordinated continuous air and artillery support to insure maximum firepower throughout the night-long battle. By refusing protection from enemy indirect and direct fire and insuring effective illumination, Captain *Vann* enabled friendly troops to place effective fire upon the enemy. As a result of Captain *Vann's* coverage and determination, the battle at Loc Ninh was a lopsided victory for United States Forces. Captain *Vann's* outstanding display of aggressiveness, devotion to duty, and personal bravery is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit on him, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army.

X--ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL. By direction of the Secretary of the Army under the provisions of paragraph 33, AR 672-5-1, the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service is awarded to:

Commander *Prakob Chantasri*, Royal Thai Navy. October 1966 to September 1967.

Sergeant Major *Mario Viglione*, , Argentine Army. February 1963 to December 1969.

Lieutenant Colonel *Kurt Walter*, , Army of the Federal Republic of Germany. April 1966 to September 1970.

XI--SOLDIER'S MEDAL. So much of Department of the Army General Order Number 40, dated 22 July 1970, pertaining to the award of the Soldier's Medal to SP4 *Everett S. Benjamin II*, , United States Army, as reads "at Hohenfels, Germany", is amended to read "Mirror Lake, Fort Devens, Massachusetts".

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

KENNETH G. WICKHAM,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

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